

Catherine	Hi Ms. Cohen
MsCohen	Hi Catherine!
Catherine	I think I need some guidance in my research paper
MsCohen	No problem, it's what I'm virtually here for 😊
Catherine	So, my core article is DFW's Federer as religious experience. You had said that what I had was too broad.
Catherine	I read the conversation you had with Jennifer yesterday
Catherine	and I kept thinking that mine is still too broad
MsCohen	Okay. Oh, btw, I put up some articles that may relate to Foster Wallace on the Lang and Comp links list. Oh good, I'm glad the conversation was helpful. Well, sort of helpful.
Catherine	So now I have begun thinking about comparing whether the violence in sports detracts completely from the beauty
Catherine	And I was going to talk about spectator violence
MsCohen	Oh, that's interesting. I like that idea. Violence can also contribute to the beauty for some, I suppose.
Catherine	Things like Hooliganism and other things that detract from the beauty of the athlete and the experience
Catherine	but when i was searching, i kept finding books about the psychological reasons for violence
MsCohen	ah, ok. That reminds me of an article I read recently on hockey: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/11/sports/hockey/hockeys-history-woven-with-violence.html?pagewanted=all
Catherine	and thats not the direction I want to go in
MsCohen	ah. Well, then drop the violence idea for a moment, with a mind that you may return to it.
Catherine	I still want to stick with violence just not the psychological reasoning
MsCohen	have you considered looking at the public "conversation" about the Federer article? For example, these are the comments on the article from the NYTimes: http://news.blogs.nytimes.com/2006/08/20/roger-federer-and-the-pursuit-of-perfect-tennis/?scp=6&sq=david%20foster%20wallace%20federer%20as%20a%20religious%20experience&st=cse
Catherine	I think about violence in the athletes and sports and how in a sport that I find extremely beautiful and graceful, figure skating, there is violence and

	aggression between athletes.
MsCohen	ah, that is interesting.
Catherine	How one figure skater took a blow to the leg that ended her career b/c a spectator did not want her to go to a competition
MsCohen	Right. I remember that. Nancy Kerrigan.
MsCohen	but it was a fellow figure skater
MsCohen	Tanya Harding
MsCohen	What about just weighing the different requirements for a tennis player to be considered the "best"? As long as you get some variety and authority in your sources
MsCohen	you could have an interesting discussion on how we consider the aesthetics of something
MsCohen	you could also do what Wallace does, but for a sport you are more interested in, such as figure skating
Catherine	so taking a completely different aspect
Catherine	of what sports
Catherine	sorry
MsCohen	No problem 😊
Catherine	so taking a completely different aspect of what sports requires?
MsCohen	Like Johnny Weir (sp?). He has a really interesting take on the aesthetics of the sport that really seems to reflect our current pop culture. Right, to be "best". But evaluating not just from a pragmatic view of winner/loser, but also the things Wallace considers: form, what it's like to watch, etc
MsCohen	Here's the Times Topics page on figure skating, btw. I just looked it up to look for Weir: http://topics.nytimes.com/topics/reference/timestopics/subjects/f/figure_skating/index.html
	*** mib_hqt400 joined #cohenli test channel
	*** mib_hqt400 quit (Quit: http://www.mibbit.com ajax IRC Client)
MsCohen	And there's one for Federer: http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people/f/roger_federer/index.html?scp=1-spot&sq=federer&st=cse
Catherine	you said to go with a sport that I'm interested in, and I would probably choose soccer just because I have been playing soccer since I was 7 and I play varsity soccer now too...

MsCo hen	It has some interesting articles that continue to consider what it will take for him to be the "best".
MsCo hen	Great, yes, go with soccer. I bet there is a lot of debate on who are the best players.
Cather ine	so I guess my question is, if I go with a specific sport, other than tennis, how to I incorporate my DFW's essay?
Cather ine	do i just take his points about what its like for tennis and generalize them to soccer?
MsCo hen	Well, go with what will be 'easiest' right now. I'm not sure-- maybe by excerpting something in particular that can be used across different sports. Well, you want to preserve his argument. He is writing about tennis, not soccer. But perhaps you can find sources that discuss the beauty/experience of other sports and compare.
MsCo hen	Have you seen some of the sources mentioned here: http://www.quora.com/David-Foster-Wallace/How-good-was-David-Foster-Wallace-at-tennis
MsCo hen	I also recently heard this piece, on NPR: http://www.npr.org/2011/11/03/141989712/the-best-sports-writing-is-rarely-in-the-newspaper
Cather ine	so if i went with beauty/experience of other sports, what would be an opposing viewpoint or a source that I could use as proof that would possibly qualify my claim
MsCo hen	Hm. I'm not sure. You will have to discover what that is in a source. That's the back-and-forth you have to do when researching. Rather than creating a claim and finding support for it, you really evaluate different claims and then establish an argument.
Cather ine	Okay so I think I've gotten it. Thanks for your help.
MsCo hen	No problem, Catherine. I'm glad you came to chat! I will post a transcript of this below if you need to access the links, etc. later. Good luck working!